

Serial Number
10/761,828

PD030017
Customer No. 24498

Remarks

Claims 1-12 are cancelled.

Claim 13-22 are new.

For Claims 13 and 18, the new feature of determining a metadata link that points to the selected essence has been added. This is part of the "advanced method" as explained in the description on page 6, line 20-24.

A corresponding example given on page 8 of the specification which shows that the user does not need to browse all existing essences or metadata, but only has to check existing metadata that link to the selected essence. This implies that these metadata are determined automatically, while only for the "basic method" the user is required to manually browse existing metadata, as described on page 8, under item a).

New Claim 14 and 19 describes usage of metadata essence (9) of metadata (8) having a link (10) that points to the given essence (1) for the MD-essence space of the metadata template, as disclosed on page 6, lines 28-31.

New Claim 15 and 20 describes adding a second metadata link (11) belonging to the same metadata (8) as the determined link (10) to the MD-link space of the metadata template, as disclosed on page 6, line 32 – page 7, line 9.

New Claim 16 and 21 describes usage of third metadata (12), to which a second metadata link (11) of said determined metadata (8) point, as disclosed also on page 6, line 32 – page 7, line 9.

New claim 17 and 22 corresponds to previous claim 6.

No new matter is added in view of these amendments.

Serial Number
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ARGUMENTS

I. 35 U.S.C. §101 Rejection of Cancelled Claims 1-12

The Examiner rejected cancelled Claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. 101 as lacking a technological art. New Claims 13-22 are tied to a computer which based upon a "technological art". That is such claims are tied to a machine which would produce a concrete, useful, and tangible result, i.e. the processing of metadata using a computer based template.

Applicants invite the Examiner to present specific reasons why the steps recited above do not produce a concrete, useful, and tangible result, if the 35 U.S.C. 101 rejection is maintained over the new claims.

II. 35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection of Claims 1-12

The Examiner rejected cancelled Claims 1-12 as being unpatentable in view of Hanamoto et al. (U.S. Patent Publication 2002/0167683 A1, hereafter referred to as 'Hanamoto') in view of Applicants' Admitted Prior Art.

Because Claims 1-12 are now cancelled, such a rejection is now moot.

Applicants have added new Claims 13-22 for this application. Applicants also note that in view of Hanamoto in view of Applicants' Admitted Prior Art, The Examiner's cited to system of Hanamoto with AAPA discloses the steps of specifying a folder that contains images, searching for a keyword that matches the folder name (S703), and if such keyword exists then reading a cover image file that is linked with the keyword (S705).

Furthermore, in the 3rd embodiment of Hanamoto in view of AAPA, discloses the steps of: reading metadata associated with an image, extracting event information, (such as a date and keyword), and then selecting a cover/template based on the event information and determines clip art corresponding to the

Serial Number
10/761,828

PD030017
Customer No. 24498

keyword, before updating the cover/template with a link pointing to the determined clip art.

Thus, metadata links (in the Examiner's cited combination) are only used in the direction into which they point, namely from the keywords to the cover image files, and from cover images files to the clip art. The main idea of the present invention is however to follow existing links in principle in the opposite direction, namely by determining which links point to a given essence, while Hanamoto determines which links point from a given essence to another.

For the reasons given above, Applicants assert that Claims 13-22 are patentable in view of the cited art of record.

Having fully addressed the Examiner's rejections it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's attorney at (609) 734-6809, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

Please charge all fees owed in connection with this response and related papers to Deposit Account 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,

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